

It Is Now President Taft.

The South Should Hail Him With Gladness.

His Inaugural Address Gives Promise as Marking An Epoch All Its Own In Industrial Development.

After taking the solemn oath of office as President of the United States, yesterday, before Chief Justice Fuller, of the Supreme Court, which was administered in the Senate chamber, instead of on the east balcony, on account of the severely inclement weather, and which was the first time in 76 years that a President had taken the oath other than in the open, President Taft began his inaugural address in these words:

My Fellow Citizens:

Any one who takes the oath I have just taken must feel a heavy weight of responsibility. If not, he has no conception of the powers and duties of the office upon which he is about to enter, or he is lacking in a proper sense of the obligation which the oath imposes.

The office of an inaugural address is to give a summary outline of the main policies of the next administration, so far as they can be anticipated. I have had the honor to be one of the advisers of my distinguished predecessor, and as such, to hold up his hands in the reforms he has initiated. I should be untrue to myself, to my promises and to the declarations of the party platform upon which I was elected to office, if I did not make the maintenance and enforcement of those reforms a most important feature of my administration. They were directed to the suppression of the lawlessness and abuse of power of the great combinations of capital invested in railroads and in industrial enterprises carrying on interstate commerce. The steps which my predecessor took and the legislation passed on his recommendation have accomplished much, have caused a general halt in the vicious policies which created popular alarm, and have brought about in the business affected a much higher regard for existing law.

To render the reforms lasting, however, and to secure at the same time freedom from alarm on the part of those pursuing proper and progressive business methods, further legislative and executive action are needed. Relief of the railroads from certain restrictions of the anti-trust law have been urged by my predecessor and will be urged by me. On the other hand, the administration is pledged to legislation looking to a proper Federal supervision and restriction to prevent excessive issues of bonds and stocks by companies owning and operating interstate commerce railroads.

Then, too, a reorganization of the Department of Justice, of the Bureau of Corporations in the Department of Commerce and Labor, and of the Interstate Commerce Commission, looking to effective co-operation of these agencies, is needed to secure a more rapid and certain enforcement of the laws affecting interstate railroads and industrial combinations.

I hope to be able to submit, at the first regular session of the incoming Congress, in December next, definite suggestions in respect to the needed amendment to the anti-trust and the interstate commerce law, and the changes required in the executive departments concerned in their enforcement.

It is believed that with the changes to be recommended American business can be assured of that measure of stability and certainty in respect to those things that may be done and those that are prohibited, which is essential to the life and growth of all business. Such a plan must include the right of the people to avail themselves of these methods of combining capital and effort deemed necessary to reach the highest degree of economic reasons and those formed with the intent of creating monopolies and artificially controlling prices.

The work of formulating into practical shape such changes is creative work of the highest order, and requires all the deliberation possible in the interval. I believe that the amendments to be proposed are just as necessary in the protection of legitimate business as in the clinching of the reforms which properly bear the name of my predecessor.

Coming on down to that portion of his inaugural in which he referred to the South and his purposes in reference to us as a section and people, he said:

I look forward with hope to increasing the already good feeling between the South and the other sections of the country. My chief purpose is not to effect a change in the electoral vote of the Southern states. That is a secondary consideration. What I look

forward to is an increase in the tolerance of political views of all kinds and their advocacy throughout the South, and the existence of a respectable political opposition in every state; even more than this, to an increased feeling on the part of all the people in the South that this government is their government, and that its officers in their states are their officers.

The consideration of this question cannot, however, be complete and full without reference to the negro race, its progress and its present condition. The thirteenth amendment secured them freedom; the fourteenth amendment due process of law, protection of their property and the pursuit of happiness, and the fifteenth amendment attempted to secure the negro against any deprivation of the privilege to vote, because he was a negro. The thirteenth and fourteenth amendments have been generally enforced and have secured the objects for which they were intended.

While the fifteenth amendment has not been generally observed in the past it ought to be observed, and the tendency of Southern legislation today is towards the enactment of election laws which shall square with that amendment.

Of course, the mere adoption of a constitutional law is only one step in the right direction. It must be fairly and justly enforced as well. In time both will come. Hence, it is clear to all that the domination of an ignorant, irresponsible element can be prevented by constitutional laws which shall exclude from voting both negroes and whites not having education or other qualifications thought to be necessary for a proper electorate.

The danger of the control of an ignorant electorate has therefore passed. With this change, the interest of many of the southern white citizens taken in the welfare of the negroes has increased. The colored men must base their hope on the results of their own industry, self-restraint and business success, as well as upon the aid and comfort and sympathy which they may receive from their white neighbors of the South.

There was a time when Northerners who sympathized with the negro in his necessary struggle for better conditions sought to give him the suffrage as a protection, and to enforce the exercise against the prevailing sentiment of the South. The movement proved to be a failure. What remains is the fifteenth amendment to the constitution and the right to have statutes of states specifying qualifications for electors subjected to the test of compliance with that amendment. This is a great protection to the negro. It never will be repealed and it never ought to be repealed.

If it had not been passed, it might be difficult now to adopt it; but with it in our fundamental law the policy of Southern legislation must and will tend to obey it, and so long as the statutes meet the test of this amendment, and are not otherwise in conflict with the constitution and laws of the United States, it is not the disposition, nor within the province of the Federal government to interfere with the regulation by Southern states of their domestic affairs.

There is in the South a stronger feeling than ever among the intelligent well-to-do and influential element in favor of the encouragement of the race to make themselves useful members of the community.

The progress which the negro has made in the last fifty years from slavery, when his statistics are reviewed, is marvelous, and it furnishes every reason to hope that in the next twenty-five years a still greater improvement in his condition as a productive member of society on the farm, and in the shop, and in other occupations, may come.

The negroes are now Americans. Their ancestors came here years ago against their will, and this is their only country and their only flag. They have shown themselves anxious to live for it and to die for it. Encountering the race feeling against them, subjected at times to cruel injustice growing out of it, they may well have our profound sympathy. We are charged with the sacred duty of making their path as smooth and easy as we can. Any recognition of their distinguished men, any number, is properly taken as an encouragement and an appreciation of their progress, and this just policy must be preserved.

But it may well admit of doubt whether in the case of any race an appointment of one of their number

to a local office in a community in which the race feeling is so widespread and acute as to interfere with the ease and facility with which the local government business can be done by the appointee, is of sufficient benefit by way of encouragement to the race to outweigh the recurrence and increase of race feeling which such an appointment is likely to engender. Therefore, the executive, in recognizing the negro race by appointments, must exercise a careful discretion not thereby to do it more harm than good.

On the other hand, we must be careful not to encourage the mere pretence of race feeling manufactured in the interest of individual political ambition.

Personally I have not the slightest race prejudice or feeling, and recognition of its existence only awakens in my heart a deeper sympathy for those who have to bear it or suffer from it, and I question the wisdom of a policy which is likely to increase it. Meanwhile, if nothing is done to prevent, a better feeling between the negroes and the whites in the South will continue to grow, and more and more of the white people will come to realize that the future of the South is to be much benefited by the industrial and intellectual progress of the negro. The exercise of political franchises by those of his race who are intelligent and well-to-do will be acquiesced in, and the right to vote will be withheld only from the ignorant and irresponsible of both races.

DEATH OF MR. JOSIAH SMITH.

Another Old Confederate Soldier Has Answered to Last Roll-Call.

From Thursday's Daily.

The death of Mr. Josiah Smith, formerly of Stoney Creek township, this county, occurred last night, at the Soldiers Home, in Raleigh, whither he was carried about two weeks ago from his late home in Brodgen township, aged 77 years.

Mr. Smith's remains, accompanied by his son, Mr. John D. Smith, were brought to this city on the Raleigh train this afternoon and borne out to the old Gardner burying ground, in Stoney Creek, to be interred by the side of his first wife, the mother of his children, who was a sister of the late Capt. W. T. Gardner, his second wife surviving him, and who is an invalid, at her home in Brodgen township.

Mr. Smith was the grandfather of our esteemed young friend and townsman, Mr. Ed. Davis, of the Royall Grocery Company.

Thus, one by one, the now so few survivors of the noblest and most heroic soldiers the world has ever known or will ever know, are passing, passing "over the river to rest beneath the shade of the trees."

Peace to their ashes and "honor—eternal honor," to their memory.

AGONY OF ECZEMA BEYOND WORDS

Whole Body a Mass of Raw, Torturing Humor—Hair All Fell Out and Ears Seemed Ready to Drop Off—Clothing Would Stick to Bleeding Flesh—Hoped Death Would End Fearful Suffering.

CASE SEEMED HOPELESS BUT CUTICURA CURED HER

"Words cannot describe the terrible eczema I suffered with. It broke out on my head and kept spreading until it covered my whole body. I was almost a solid mass of sores from head to foot. I looked more like a piece of raw beef than a human being. The pain and agony I endured seemed more than I could bear. Blood and pus oozed from the great sore on my scalp, from under my finger nails, and nearly all over my body. My ears were so crusty and swollen I was afraid they would break off. Every hair in my head fell out. I could not sit down, for my clothes would stick to the raw and bleeding flesh, making me cry out from the pain. My family doctor did all he could, but I got worse and worse. My condition was awful. I did not think I could live, and wanted death to come and end my frightful sufferings."

"In this condition my mother-in-law begged me to try the Cuticura Remedies. I said I would, but had no hope of recovery. But oh, what blessed relief I experienced after applying Cuticura Ointment. It cooled the bleeding and itching flesh and brought me the first real sleep I had had in weeks. It was as grateful as ice to a burning tongue. I would bathe with warm water and Cuticura Soap, then apply the Ointment freely. I also took Cuticura Resolvent for the blood. In a short time the sores stopped running, the flesh began to heal, and I knew I was to get well again. Then the hair on my head began to grow, and in a short time I was completely cured. I cannot praise Cuticura enough. I wish I could tell everybody who has eczema to use Cuticura. My condition was so terrible that what cured me cannot fail to cure anybody of this awful disease. If any one doubts the truth of this letter, tell them to write to me. Mrs. Wm. Hunt, 135 Thomas St., Newark, N. J., Sept. 28, 1908."

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PASSING OF CONGRESS

The New Absorbs The Old Without a Confluent Ripple.

The Sixtieth Congress Passes Into History and The Sixty First Takes Its Place on The Calendar And The Nation's Pay Roll.

Washington, D. C., March 4.—The Sixtieth Congress came to an end at noon today and it glided into the Sixty-first so imperceptibly that the change was scarcely noticeable. The final act, though unofficial in so far as the House was concerned, took place in the Senate chamber, where both Houses witnessed the incoming of the new administration.

The Senate will meet at noon tomorrow to consider President Taft's nominations, but the House will not convene again until the beginning of the extra session of Congress to be called for the 15th instant.

The Senate met at 9:30 a. m., but the proceedings were confined to the most formal work, mainly adoption of the complete report of the conferees on the pension appropriation bill, the last of the great supply measures, which the House also passed within one hour of adjournment, and the appointment of two or three committees in accordance with recent congressional enactments. Vice-President Fairbanks delivered an address in response to resolutions thanking him for his conduct of the office.

Utterly lacking in all the reticent incidents usually marking the closing of a Congress, the House, at 11:59:30 o'clock was declared by Speaker Cannon to be adjourned without day.

Having reconvened at 10 o'clock in the morning the two hours were spent in cleaning up conference reports and passing a few bills of no great public interest.

Speaker Cannon received a unanimous vote of thanks. The Speaker wished the members peace, health and prosperity and the House adjourned, the members marching over to the Senate.

During the sessions Chairman Tawney, of the Appropriations Committee in the House, declared that the expenditures of the government have at no time, except in war, increased as rapidly as during the past eight years.

Mr. Cannon, as retiring Speaker, said:

"After all is said and done in the affairs of parties and of men, what is needed in the public service is virile men; men who favor policies that they believe in and have the courage of their convictions. Whether it be the majority or the minority, and a minority virile and patriotic, is as necessary as is a majority in a government of the people, strong men in public life as well as in private life, strike above the belt and tell the truth. As one member of this House, and under the tongue of good report and evil report, I have performed my duty as a Representative and Speaker to the best of my judgment without regard to personal consequences to me."

EARTHQUAKE KILLS 150.

Small Town Near Jerusalem Destroyed by Shake.

London, March 3.—A telegram received from Smyrna, Asiatic Turkey, says that the village of Masram, near Jerusalem, has been destroyed by an earthquake. One hundred and fifty persons are buried in the ruins.

No confirmation is obtainable here of the reported destruction of this village, nor can the place itself be located.

A dispatch of similar effect has heretofore appeared in Paris, and it is believed that the present report grows out of this publication, which also, up to the present, lacks confirmation.

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500 Tons Baughs Tobacco and Cotton Guano.	500 Tons Cotton Seed Meal.
50 Tons Baughs 6-5-7 Potato Guano.	100 Tons Muriate and Sulphate Potash.
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